

Fact Sheet

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Labor Market Report Highlights February 2015

Learn about the difference between seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted numbers [here](#).

Labor Force and Unemployment

- The February 2015 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, unchanged from January and down from 4.6 percent in February 2014.
- The February 2015 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Kansas was 4.5 percent, down from 4.6 percent in January, and down from 5.2 percent one year ago.
- There were 13,070 initial claims for unemployment benefits in February 2015, down from 17,894 in January and up from 11,121 in February 2014. There were 97,413 continued claims in February, down from 103,232 the previous month and down from 100,071 in February 2014. These numbers include all available programs.
- Over the year, the number of people employed increased by 13,562 individuals, or 1 percent. A total of 1,439,056 Kansans were employed in February 2015.
- The number of unemployed has decreased by 6,053 persons since last year, an 8.8 percent decline.

Jobs Data

Seasonally Adjusted

- The state added 21,000 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs over the year, a 1.9 percent gain. Kansas gained 21,200 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs since February 2014, a 1.5 percent increase.
- Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs increased by 9,000 since last month, a 0.8 percent gain. Since January, the state added 9,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs, a 0.7 percent increase.
- Kansas set a new record level of private sector jobs in February at 1,150,400.

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Kansas gained 20,400 private sector jobs since February 2014, a 1.8 percent increase. The state gained 20,600 nonfarm jobs over the year, a 1.5 percent increase.
- Private sector jobs increased by 6,100 since January, a 0.5 percent increase. Over the month, Kansas gained 14,600 nonfarm jobs, a 1.1 percent increase.

Industry Breakdown

- Nine of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the year job gains. These gains were greatest in:
 - Trade, transportation and utilities increased by 5,400 jobs, a 2.1 percent gain, with growth throughout the sector.
 - Leisure and hospitality gained 5,200 jobs, a 4.5 percent increase. The gains were in accommodation and food services.
 - Professional and business services added 4,600 jobs, a 2.8 percent gain, with increases throughout the sector.
- Two of the 11 major industries reported statewide over the year job losses. These were in:
 - Manufacturing declined by 1,200 jobs, or 0.7 percent. The losses were throughout the sector.
 - Mining and logging decreased by 300 jobs, or 2.9 percent.
- Eight of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the month job gains. The gains were greatest in:
 - Government increased by 8,500 jobs, or 3.3 percent. The seasonal gains were at the state and local levels.
 - Manufacturing gained 3,300 jobs, a 2.1 percent increase. The gains were in durable goods manufacturing.
 - Professional and business services added 2,100 jobs, or 1.3 percent. The gains were mostly in professional, scientific and technical services.
- Two of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported a loss over the month. The losses were in:
 - Trade, transportation and utilities declined by 2,900 jobs, or 1.1 percent. The losses were mostly in retail trade.
 - Mining and logging decreased by 100 jobs, or 1 percent.
- One industry, financial activities, showed no change over the month.

Private Sector Earnings

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Private sector average weekly earnings increased by \$25.52, or 3.4 percent, since last year, to a total of \$784.73.
- Financial Activities increased the most in earnings since last year. Average weekly earnings in financial activities increased by \$61.19, or 6.2 percent, since February 2014, to a total of \$1,043.17.
- Trade, transportation and utilities also had notable increases. Average weekly earnings increased by \$59.55, or 8.6 percent, since last year, to a total of \$753.14.

The March 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, April 17.

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